

WP7-002

11-30-05

Kalispi

Comments for BPA hearing on rates

Thank you for the opportunity to say a few words for the record this evening. My name is Terry Smith and I am here with a few of our other union officers. I want to be brief and I hope not to repeat Jim Stromberg's comments – at least not too much.

Columbia Falls Aluminum has been providing some of the best jobs in Montana for a little over 50 years.

At CFAC, we have worked with the company to make everything “inside the fence” as efficient as possible. In fact, over the past few years, we have made CFAC the most efficient aluminum plant of its kind in the entire world. However, the biggest determinators of our fate are things “outside the fence”.

Specifically, power cost is the most important issue facing us.

In the future, CFAC will not be able to buy power at less than the PF rate. I am here tonight with my fellow union officers to ask you to establish the Bonneville PF rate at a level that will enable us to keep the fate of the aluminum industry in Montana, along with its high-paying, family-wage jobs, in our own hands. We need you to set the PF rate below \$30.00 per Mega Watt Hour.

Thank you for you time and your attention.

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